Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

62,73

LIBRARY
RECEIVED
SEP 11 1923
U. S. Department of Agriculture.

CHINESE PRIMROSE

SEED

GROWN AND FOR SALE BY

HENRY S. RUPP & SONS,
SHIREMANSTOWN, CUMBERLAND CO., PA.

1889

Among the winter-blooming flowers there are none more admired than the Chinese Primroses. The improvement of these flowers during the last few years has made them universal favorites for house culture, and the general admiration of the improved varieties has caused a great demand for the plants, so that Florists can scarcely over-stock their greenhouses for the Fall trade.

The seed we offer in this circular is grown from the finest strain of Primroses, which is attested by hundreds of Florists who get their seed each season from us. We can give no better testimonial of the high grade and value of the Primroses, and the good quality of the seed than to state that we have for years held the same customers for this seed. We could give hundreds of flattering testimonials, showing that the plants from our seed are more vigorous and grown with less care and disappointment, and the plants and flowers more showy than from imported seed Our supply this season is larger than usual, and the seed of the best quality, so that we are able to furnish all our customers with prime seed, and as many others who have not yet purchased from us, assuring them that the seed and flowers will prove, under good culture to be very much above the high standard of praise under which we sell them.

The flowers of these Primroses are very large and full, the petals overlapping; they are all beautifully fringed, having large yellow centers and brilliant colors; they bloom on tall stems, thus making the flowers conspicuous above the foliage.

The seed is offered at reduced rates, as will be seen by the following prices. We always give full count with liberal addition. In ordering, the number affixed to each variety need only be given. When two or more packets of the same variety are ordered the full number of seeds will be put into one packet. Packet No. 15 contains mostly seeds of the best selling varieties with a few of the others, and novelties not named in this list. It is put up specially for Florists who do not grow Primroses extensively, and for amateurs who wish to have a great variety. We retain the privilege, in case any of the varieties become exhausted to send others in their place.

——PRICES.——

Per packet,	**20 cents,**
Six packets for	**$1.00,**
Fourteen packets for	**$2.00,**
Forty packets for	**$5.00,**
Eighty-five packets for	**$10.00.**

—o—

SINGLE FLOWERING.

Packet	No. 1.	White ; not less than	50	seeds.
"	" 2.	Dark red,	50	"
"	" 3.	Orange,	50	"
"	" 4.	Dark crimson, spotted white,	40	"
"	" 5.	Bright lilac, spotted white,	40	"
"	" 6.	White, striped and flaked with red,	40	"
"	" 8.	Cheswick red ; very dark,	40	"
"	" 10.	Fern-leaved ; three colors mixed,	20	"
"	" 11.	Crested-leaved ; flowers white and pink,	30	"
"	" 12.	Miscellaneously mixed,	50	"

DOUBLE FLOWERING.

Packet	No. 13.	Orange,	20	seeds.
"	" 14.	Pure white,	15	"
"	" 15.	Eighteen varieties mixed, 400 seeds, price	$1.00.	

—o—

All orders must be accompanied by the cash. In remitting do not send postage stamps, as we can not dispose of them here. Drafts on Eastern banks, and Money Orders made payable at the Mechanicsburg, Pa. post Office or Registered Letter will come at our risk.

CULTURE.

———x———

The soil for growing fine Primroses must be of the richest quality. Woods mold, or well decayed sod, with a liberal amount of well rotted stable manure, is suitable for Primroses. Where this can not be had, any rich garden soil mixed with good manure will do very well. The soil should be prepared early, and when wanted for use should be finely pulverized and sifted, as the roots of Primroses are very fine and tender and can not penetrate hard lumps of earth.

TIME FOR SOWING THE SEED.

The seed should be sowed about the first, or not later than the fifteenth of July. The plants will then commence to bloom about the beginning of December, and continue in perfect flower until Spring. If started earlier, the flowers will not be so fine during the latter part of winter when flowers are most appreciated. For early sale of plants Florists should sow the seed in June; and for Spridg sales sow in September.

SOWING THE SEED.

The seed should be sowed either in seed-pans or shallow boxes, filled with about two inches of finely pulverized earth. Sow the seed thinly on this, press with the bottom of a small flower pot and cover evenly with fresh sand about one-sixteenth of an inch, smooth off and press again. Cover lightly with moss or blades of grass to keep the soil from drying out: then dampen it Set the the pans or boxes in the coolest part of the greenhouse, or in some cool, shaded and dry place where the wind can not reach them. As soon as the plants make their appearance the covering should be carefully removed. Some Florists complain that their Primroses dampen off in the seed-boxes before they are large enough to transplant. This is very easy to overcome; the boxes should be set out into the open air during the day. Keep them in the greenhouse until the seeds are up, then remove to a shed, or set them out-doors in a shady place for several hours where they are protected from the wind. If taken out of the greenhouse in time and set in a dry, and well aired place there will be no trouble in their damping off. After being transplanted into small pots the trouble will be over. The earth should be kept moderately moist and the plants lightly shaded.

POTTING THE PLANTS.

When the plants are of sufficient size, and have made some fibrous roots, they should be planted into small pots, the smallest that can be had, using the soil as described, pulverized and sifted; then give a pretty thorough watering and shade for a few days, and then set them where there is plenty of light, but not in the sun, and in as dry and cool a place as can be found at this season of the year. In all stages of growth an over-supply of water should be avoided.

REPOTTING THE PLANTS.

When the pots are filled with roots the plants should be repotted into larger ones, three-inch pots, and treated as when they were in small pots. As soon as these pots are well packed with roots, when the lower leaves begin to turn yellow, they must be put into larger pots ; the lower leaves should be cut off and the plants set a little deeper than they were before. Use four-inch pots for this planting. They seldom require larger pots if they are not started before the first of July ; but if they become too much pot-bound they must be put into five-inch pots, or they will lose their vigor and produce smaller flowers. They must be kept in vigorous growth to bring the flowers to the largest size and greatest beauty.

PLACE FOR THE PLANTS.

About the time the flower buds appear the plants should be set where wanted when in bloom. They then become adapted to the place, and will do better than if changed when in bloom. When set in a window they should be placed near the glass, to have a good share of light and a cool place. They will also give good returns from the benefit of pure and fresh air. When kept in a greenhouse select a rather cool part, and lightly shade the glass with whitewash. The flowers will then be larger and of brighter colors than when kept under the full rays of the sun.

TO KEEP PRIMROSES OVER THE SUMMER.

Put them in a cool, shady place, in a frame or under a tree. They will need very little attention during the Summer. About the first of September take them out of the pots cut off nearly all the roots and leaves, plant into smaller pots and start to growing. When they have made good growth shift into larger pots. The flowers are seldom as fine as on young plants.